

# Wallace Asserts He'd Ignore Rights Laws

WASHINGTON, July 16 (AP)—Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama declared Tuesday he would make no effort to help enforce a federal public accommodations law nor would he encourage compliance with it in his state.

"I would just go ahead and be the governor of Alabama and let the federal folks try to enforce it," Wallace told the Senate Commerce Committee.

In that connection the governor restated his view it would take an army of federal agents or troops to enforce a law opening restaurants, motels and theaters and other places of business to racial integration.

Wallace returned to the committee to complete the fiery testimony against President Kennedy's bill which he began Monday.

**MEANWHILE**, Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy's appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the President's overall civil rights program was deferred until Wednesday. That will be Robert Kennedy's third round at the capitol in the civil rights fight—and undoubtedly the toughest in view of the weight of Southern membership on the committee.

After arriving at the packed hearing room, Kennedy was told by Chairman James O. Eastland, D-Miss., that he might as well return to his Justice Department office since a number of committee members had opening statements to make.

Eastland is one of the strongest foes the whole administration civil rights package has on Capitol Hill.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr., D-N.C., said it would take him about an hour to read his statement even if he hurried through it.

Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich., a sponsor of the administration program, said he would withdraw a statement he intended to make, in view of what he called urgency of acting on the legislation.

**HART SAID** that in his judgment the nation had come "closer to disaster in Birmingham than in Cuba."

Another supporter of the bill, Sen. Edward V. Long, D-Mo., said he would put his statement in the record, but both Sens. Everett M. Dirksen, R-Ill., and Kenneth B. Keating, R-N.Y., said they had brief statements they wanted to make.

It became apparent that Kennedy would not have a chance to testify before the Senate met at noon, and unless an exception to the rules is granted, committees may not sit after that.

Wallace's declaration he would not help enforce a public accommodation law came during an

exchange with Hart, which even got into the question of whether Heaven will be segregated.

**THE GOVERNOR** had concluded a lengthy friendly questioning by Sen. Strom Thurmond, D-S.C., with the assertion that he bore no hatred for Negroes or anyone, that he believed in God, and tried to follow religious teachings.

Hart, a member of both the Commerce and Judiciary committees, said that since Wallace had introduced this "solemn note" into the proceedings, he would like to ask, "What you think Heaven will be like, will it be segregated?"

Wallace answered that "I don't think any of us knows what Heaven will be like." He went on to say "God made us all, he made you and me white, and he made others black. He segregated us."

Hart said he would not pursue it further except to comment that he presumed "We would all be one family in heaven under one loving Father."

**AT THE** judiciary committee hearing, Ervin reviewed each of the seven parts of the administration's omnibus bill and denounced the whole package as unconstitutional, undesirable and unnecessary.

He called the legislation "as

drastic and indefensible a proposal as has ever been submitted to this Congress."

Much of Ervin's criticism was directed at the public accommodations provision, with which the Commerce Committee is dealing as a separate measure. Ervin said it is "condemned by its manifest unconstitutionality."

Ervin also argued that liberty is being destroyed in a drive for equality and that "the rights of all are being sacrificed for the special rights of a few."

Long, in the statement he put in the record, contended on the other hand that the proposed legislation does not seek to create any right that does not already exist.

Asserting that discriminatory practices have created a grave danger for the nation, Long said the civil rights bill "merely seeks ways and means to help make the guarantees of our Constitution, the law of the land, a reality for all Americans."